

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. An ultrasonic probe assembly comprising:
 - a housing having a handle and a tip, said tip having an axis;
 - said probe including a carriage assembly and a scanning probe;
 - 10 a scanning assembly contained within said tip; said scanning assembly comprising a track generally parallel to said tip axis, a sled mounted on said track to be moveable along said track; and a transducer mounted on said sled;
 - a drive operatively connected to said sled to move said sled along said track, and including a magnetic coupler electrically connected between the
 - 15 carriage assembly and the scanning probe for use for transmitting a signal between said carriage assembly and the scanning probe for further processing.
2. The device of claim 1 wherein the magnetic coupler includes a pair of coupler rings, one ring being connected into the carriage assembly for rotation, while the second coupler ring stationarily mounts to the scanning probe.
3. A multi-plane ultrasonic probe assembly for use for ultrasound medical scanning of a part of the body whereby upon locating of the probe within the body it remains stationary while the assembly provides multi-plane scanning ,
 - 25 comprising:
 - a housing having a handle and a probe tip, said probe tip having an axis;
 - a scanning assembly contained within said probe tip and being rotatable in said probe tip to provide radial scanning of a proximate body part;
 - said housing including a carriage assembly, and said scanning assembly
 - 30 including a scanning probe;
 - a transducer operatively associated with said scanning assembly, a drive operatively connected to said scanning assembly to rotate said scanning

- 5 assembly and to move said transducer longitudinally in said probe tip, to provide multi-plane scanning of a body part without any movement the ultrasonic probe once inserted, and including a magnetic coupler electrically connected between the carriage assembly and the scanning probe for use for transmitting a signal between said carriage assembly and the scanning probe for further processing.

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